

U.S.A. SUICIDE: 2008 OFFICIAL FINAL DATA

	Number	Per Day	Rate	% of Deaths	Group (Number of Suicides)	Rate
Nation	36,035	98.5	11.8	1.5	White Male (25,801).....	21.2
Males.....	28,450	77.7	19.0	2.3	White Female (6,843).....	5.5
Females	7,585	20.7	4.9	0.6	Nonwhite Male (2,649).....	9.3
Whites	32,644	89.2	13.3	1.5	Nonwhite Female (742).....	2.4
Nonwhites	3,391	9.3	5.7	1.0	Black Male (1,759).....	9.1
Blacks.....	2,106	5.8	5.2	0.7	Black Female (347).....	1.6
Elderly (65+ yrs.).....	5,755	15.7	14.8	0.3	Hispanic (2,345).....	5.0
Young (15-24 yrs.).....	4,298	11.7	10.0	13.3	Native Americans (409).....	11.9
					Asian/Pacific Islanders (876).....	5.8

Fatal Outcomes (Suicides):

a rate increase in 2007 was followed by another increase in 2008

- Average of 1 person every 14.6 minutes killed themselves
- Average of 1 old person every 1 hour and 32 minutes killed themselves
- Average of 1 young person every 2 hours and 3 minutes killed themselves. (If the 222 suicides below age 15 are included, 1 young person every 1 hour and 57 minutes)

10th ranking cause of death in U.S.— 3rd for young ----->>	Cause	Number	Rate
• 3.75 male deaths by suicide for each female death by suicide	All Causes	32,198	75.0
• Suicide ranks 10th as a cause of death; Homicide ranks 15th	1-Accidents	14,089	32.8

Nonfatal Outcomes (Attempts) (figures are estimates; no official U.S. national data compiled):

- 900,875 annual attempts in U.S. (using 25:1 ratio); 2009 SAMHSA study: 1.1 million adults (18 and up)
- Translates to one attempt every 35 seconds (based on 900,875 attempts) [1.1 million = 1 every 29 seconds]
- 25 attempts for every death by suicide for nation (one estimate); 100-200:1 for young; 4:1 for elderly
- 3 female attempts for each male attempt

Survivors (i.e., family members and friends of a loved one who died by suicide):

- Each suicide intimately affects at least 6 other people (estimate)
- Based on the 780,138 suicides from 1984 through 2008, estimated that the number of survivors of suicides in the U.S. is 4.68 million (1 of every 65 Americans in 2008); number grew by at least 216,210 in 2008
- If there is a suicide every 14.6 minutes, then there are at least 6 new survivors every 14.6 minutes as well

Suicide Methods	Number	Rate	Percent of Total		Number	Rate	Percent of Total
Firearm suicides	18,223	6.0	50.6%	All but Firearms	17,812	5.9	49.4%
Suffocation/Hanging	8,578	2.8	23.8%	Poisoning	6,442	2.1	17.9%
Cut/pierce	666	0.2	1.8%	Drowning	407	0.1	1.1%

U.S.A. Suicide Rates 1998-2008											15 Leading Causes of Death in the U.S.A., 2008						
(Rates per 100,000 population)											(total of 2,471,984 deaths; 812.2 rate)						
Group/	Age	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Group/	Age	Rank & Cause of Death	Rate	Deaths
5-14	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	5-14	11	1 Diseases of heart (heart disease)	202.7	616,828
15-24	11.1	10.3	10.4	9.9	9.9	9.7	10.3	10.0	9.9	9.7	10.0	10.0	15-24	12	2 Malignant neoplasms (cancer)	185.8	565,469
25-34	13.8	13.5	12.8	12.8	12.6	12.7	12.7	12.4	12.3	13.0	12.9	13.0	25-34	13	3 Chronic lower respiratory diseases	46.4	141,090
35-44	15.4	14.4	14.6	14.7	15.3	14.9	15.0	14.9	15.1	15.6	15.9	15.6	35-44	14	4 Cerebrovascular diseases (stroke)	44.1	134,148
45-54	14.8	14.2	14.6	15.2	15.7	15.9	16.6	16.5	17.2	17.7	18.7	17.7	45-54	15	5 Accidents (unintentional injuries)	40.1	121,902
55-64	13.1	12.4	12.3	13.1	13.6	13.8	13.8	13.9	14.5	15.5	16.3	15.5	55-64	16	6 Alzheimer's disease	27.1	82,435
65-74	14.1	13.6	12.6	13.3	13.5	12.7	12.3	12.6	12.6	12.6	13.9	12.6	65-74	17	7 Diabetes mellitus (diabetes)	23.2	70,553
75-84	19.7	18.3	17.7	17.4	17.7	16.4	16.3	16.9	15.9	16.3	16.0	16.0	75-84	18	8 Influenza & pneumonia	18.5	56,284
85+	21.0	19.2	19.4	17.5	18.0	16.9	16.4	16.9	15.9	15.6	15.6	15.6	85+	19	9 Nephritis, nephrosis (kidney disease)	15.9	48,237
65+	16.9	15.9	15.3	15.3	15.6	14.6	14.3	14.7	14.2	14.3	14.8	14.8	65+	10	10 Suicide [Intentional Self-Harm]	11.8	36,035
Total	11.3	10.7	10.7	10.8	11.0	10.8	11.0	11.0	11.1	11.5	11.8	11.8	Total	11	11 Septicemia	11.8	35,927
Men	18.6	17.6	17.5	17.6	17.9	17.6	17.7	17.7	17.8	18.3	19.0	19.0	Men	12	12 Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis	9.8	29,963
Women	4.4	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.3	4.3	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.8	4.9	4.9	Women	13	13 Essential hypertension and renal disease	8.5	25,742
White	12.4	11.7	11.7	11.9	12.2	12.1	12.3	12.3	12.4	12.9	13.3	13.3	White	14	14 Parkinson's disease	6.7	20,483
Nonwh	6.2	6.0	5.9	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.8	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.7	5.7	NonWh	15	15 Homicide [Assault]	5.9	17,826
Black	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.3	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.1	4.9	4.9	5.2	5.2	Black	-	- All other causes (Residual)	154.1	469,062

Old made up 12.7% of 2008 population but represented 16.0% of the suicides.

Young were 14.1% of 2008 population and comprised 11.9% of the suicides.

1,043,591* Years of Potential Life Lost Before Age 75 (33,076 of 36,035 suicides are below age 75)

* WISQARS YPLL figure: 1,042,845 using individual years rather than 10-year age groups as above.

Mortality figures appearing here are derived or calculated from data in the following official data source:
obtained 12 September from CDC's WISQARS website <http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/index.html>.

SAMHSA 2009 study: <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/090917suicide0907.aspx>

Rate, Number, and Ranking of Suicide for Each U.S.A. State, 2008*

Rank	State [2007 Rank] (Region)	Deaths	Rate	Region [Abbreviations]	Rate	Number
1	Alaska [1] (W)	169	24.6	West (W).....	13.1	9,229
2	Wyoming [4] (W)	124	23.3	South (S).....	12.5	14,020
3	New Mexico [3] (W)	419	21.1	Nation	11.8	36,035
4	Montana [2] (W)	203	21.0	Midwest (MW).....	11.8	7,835
5	Nevada [5] (W)	528	20.2	Northeast (NE).....	9.0	4,951
6	Idaho [11T] (W)	252	16.5			
7	Colorado [6] (W)	803	16.3			
8	Oklahoma [13] (S)	575	15.8			
9	Arkansas [17T] (S)	447	15.6			
9	Tennessee [20T] (S)	973	15.6			
11	South Dakota [25T] (MW)	124	15.4			
12	Vermont [15T] (NE)	94	15.1			
12	Oregon [9] (W)	572	15.1			
14	Arizona [8] (W)	972	15.0			
15	Florida [17T] (S)	2,740	14.9			
16	West Virginia [7] (S)	261	14.4			
17	Utah [15T] (W)	390	14.3			
17	Kentucky [10] (S)	612	14.3			
19	Mississippi [22] (S)	409	13.9			
20	Maine [14] (NE)	181	13.7			
21	New Hampshire [29T] (NE)	179	13.5			
21	Washington [23] (W)	889	13.5			
23	North Dakota [11T] (MW)	86	13.4			
24	Wisconsin [24] (MW)	743	13.2			
25	Missouri [20T] (MW)	779	13.1			
26	Alabama [25T] (S)	604	12.9			
27	Iowa [38] (MW)	380	12.7			
27	Indiana [27] (MW)	809	12.7			
29	North Carolina [31] (S)	1,162	12.6			
29	South Carolina [29T] (S)	565	12.6			
31	Delaware [36T] (S)	109	12.4			
32	Ohio [34] (MW)	1,412	12.3			
32	Pennsylvania [32] (NE)	1,539	12.3			
34	Virginia [33] (S)	948	12.2			
35	Kansas [19] (MW)	337	12.1			
36	Louisiana [28] (S)	532	12.0			
	United States - Total	36,035	11.8			
37	Michigan [35] (MW)	1180	11.8			
38	Minnesota [36T] (MW)	596	11.4			
39	Nebraska [41T] (MW)	191	10.7			
40	Texas [41T] (S)	2,552	10.5			
41	Rhode Island [45] (NE)	110	10.4			
42	Hawaii [39T] (W)	133	10.3			
42	California [43] (W)	3,775	10.3			
44	Georgia [39T] (S)	981	10.1			
45	Illinois [46] (MW)	1,198	9.3			
46	Connecticut [48] (NE)	315	9.0			
46	Maryland [44] (S)	507	9.0			
48	Massachusetts [47] (NE)	509	7.8			
49	District of Columbia [51] (S)	43	7.3			
50	New York [49] (NE)	1,409	7.2			
51	New Jersey [50] (NE)	615	7.1			

Source:

Mortality figures appearing here are derived or calculated from data in the following *official data source* :obtained 24 October from CDC's WISQARS website <http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/index.html>.

[data are by place of residence]
[Suicide = ICD-10 Codes X60-X84, Y87.0, U03]

Note: All rates are per 100,000 population.

*including the District of Columbia.

Suicide State Data Page: 2008
24 October 2011

Prepared by John L. McIntosh, Ph.D. for



***American Association
of Suicidology***

5221 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20015
(202) 237-2280

***“to understand and prevent suicide
as a means of promoting human well-being”***

Visit the AAS website at:

<http://www.suicidology.org>

For other suicide data, and an archive of state data, visit the website below and click on the dropdown “Suicide Stats” menu:

<http://mypage.iusb.edu/~jmcintos/>

Below is a notice posted at the WISQARS website as downloaded on 24 October 2011 <http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/fatal.html>:

The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) in an agreement with the National Association of Public Health Statistics and Information Systems (NAPHSIS) has implemented a new, more restrictive rule for reporting 2008 state- and county-level death data from the National Vital Statistics System (NVSS) in order to avoid inadvertent disclosure of cases. Therefore, the Office of Statistics and Programming, NCIPC is currently modifying WISQARS to accommodate the new data suppression rule; i.e., no figure, including totals, should be less than 10 in tabulations for sub-national geographic areas, regardless of the number of years combined with the 2008 data. Tabulations, charts, and maps produced by WISQARS using only NVSS death data for years prior to 2008 are not affected by this new rule.

Caution: Annual fluctuations in state levels combined with often relatively small populations can make these data highly variable.

Suggested citation: McIntosh, J. L. (for the American Association of Suicidology). (2011). U.S.A. suicide 2008: Official final data. Washington, DC: American Association of Suicidology, dated 24 October 2011, downloaded from <http://www.suicidology.org>.